“I’ve been asked why do I volunteer...it’s because I care. I care about all people. If I can help all people that’s what I want to do.”

Vernita Woods-Holmes,
2016 Diekemper Lifetime of Service recipient
The Volunteer Center of Lubbock exists to inspire a more engaged community by helping people find their purpose and act on it.

Your support in 2016 made it possible for 41,302 people to help because they care.

Everything we do is about nurturing a culture of service and developing the next generation of leaders through partnerships.

Thank you for your help in transforming the world!
Dear friends,

When we added up all the people served in 2016, it totaled more than 41,000! We had jumped from 35,000 to 39,000 in 2015.

Those are BIG numbers.

But what made me jump with joy is knowing that every one of those numbers is a person living in our South Plains community. A person that might range in age from 2 to 92. All kinds of people - with all kinds of interests - who care and want to help.

Your investment in the Volunteer Center made it possible to impact more people than ever in the year we celebrated our 25th Anniversary. Here are some of our favorite impacts:

- Being a part of Tech to Town – a new collaboration with Texas Tech encouraging students to give back on a single day of service
- Starting a brand new youth leadership program – Helping Youth Purposefully Engage – thanks to relentless community volunteers and our funding partners at United Supermarkets
- Stronger than ever – and more frequent – family volunteering opportunities including a mural project done last summer in collaboration with CASP (Charles Adams Studio Project)
- Igniting Creativity with 650 students, business leaders, and nonprofits at our Service and Leadership Symposium in September
- Having more people than ever with more places to help at each of our 5 National Days of Service throughout the year
- Stretching eager participants in 4 different year-long leadership programs
- Increasing networking opportunities for bringing together and encouraging collaboration among our agencies
- Celebrating:
  - a big 25th Bday in February
  - 350+ youth at Celebration of Service in May
  - exemplary volunteers at the Cornucopia Luncheon in November

I could keep going – especially when I’m reminded of each of the people and each of the stories behind each of those highlights. I’d love to visit with you if you’d like details.

But here’s the thing….none of it would have happened without you. We cannot do what we do without you. Thank you for your willingness to invest your money and time and passion. We can’t wait to keep going!

Let us know how we can help,

Sharon Hyde Bass, Executive Director
2016 Volunteer Impact

Our passion is helping you find your passion. Passion often leads to you finding your purpose. The Volunteer Center is here to help you act on your purpose.

"The more and more you volunteer, the more you recognize the power your actions have, that develops into the idea that your actions can make a difference in the world and you should continue doing that."

– Catherine Latour, Washington and Lee University student, Former VCL Board Member and United Way Youth Division Member

The Impact of $1

Social Return on Investment

\[
\frac{\text{Total Social Value}}{\text{Volunteer Program Expenses}} = \frac{\$14,000,000}{\$473,000} = \frac{\$30}{\$1}
\]
Your support helps build the next generation of leaders. Defining their own personal gifts makes it possible for leaders of all ages to benefit our community.

1,008 Adult Leadership
3,506.5 Hours

711 Youth Leadership
2,321.5 Hours

“I am elated that I got involved when I did, and I am most appreciative that you all have supported me through many of the Volunteer Center programs.”

- Laura Thomas, leadership program participant
2016 Partnerships

A thriving community is a collaborative one — a community in which everyone is coming together to meet individual and corporate needs. The Volunteer Center exists to be a hub for collaboration between for-profits, nonprofits, schools, individuals, and organizations of all types.

![Heart Handshake and School Building Logos]

**140**
Agency Partners

**40**
Area Schools

**47**
Businesses

Our Agency Partner program has grown in recent years, both in participation and in scope of collaborative efforts. One thing that remains the same, however, is that our agency partners are integral to our mission. As we help people in the community find their purpose and act on it, we connect them to organizations that fit their interests. We are always working to increase collaborations between our partners through networking opportunities such as our monthly Brown Bag Lunches. As new partners join the Volunteer Center, we seek to connect them to other organizations so that they can work together in areas they overlap, share resources and information, and ultimately strengthen the fabric of our community.

“Our relationship with the Volunteer Center has been the most beneficial partnership we have on the local level. Volunteers have been able to find opportunities to help the prison, both on-site and remotely, and the impact of this assistance has made a sizeable difference for the patients and staff alike.”

- **Rebecca Ramirez**, TTUHSC Montford Prison Unit, Agency Partner

Through the Volunteer Center’s Youth in Service program, we partner with area middle schools and high schools to build the next generation of community leaders. We connect their students to opportunities throughout the South Plains. We provide funding, training, and support that enables students to develop their own service projects. A wide range of people in need— and the organizations that support them—are impacted. And yes, many of these are also agency partners of the Volunteer Center.

“The Volunteer Center drives us to reach out in the community and not be passive. The resources they provide to find appropriate opportunities are great! In addition to volunteering, our students also gain valuable leadership skills.”

- **Tana Askins**, School Sponsor, Evans Middle School

The Volunteer Center helps businesses make a broader impact in our community. We connect them to agencies needing volunteer support. We offer presentations on volunteering and community engagement, volunteer matching services to help employees find their best fit, and help companies create employee volunteer programs. We also offer extensive leadership programming for young professionals wanting to make an impact and for teams that want to become more high performing.

“This [partnership] is awesome! As glad as y’all are for our help [with volunteer projects], we are equally excited to be part of it! We are looking forward to these upcoming events. Thank y’all so much!”

- **Carlos Rodriguez**, Assistant Store Manager, Kohl’s
How Your Dollars Change Lives

**INCOME**

Actual Revenue

$697,872

- Grants - 41%
  - $289,975
- United Way - 28%
  - $195,948
- Donations - 13%
  - $87,827
- Other - 6%
  - $43,763
- Golf Tournament - 5%
  - $34,709
- Earned Revenue - 3%
  - $20,759
- Endowment - 3%
  - $19,371
- Interest - 1%
  - $5,520

**EXPENSE**

Actual Expenses

$630,890

- VCL Programs - 95%
  - $598,658
- Fundraising - 3.5%
  - $21,784
- Management & General - 1.5%
  - $10,448
THANK YOU to all of our generous supporters! Your partnership in 2015 helped us fulfill our mission of connecting, empowering and transforming the community through purposeful volunteerism and leadership development.

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